



Rt. Hon. Boris Johnson MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London SW1A 2AA

28th August 2020

Dear Prime Minister

On 3rd July we wrote asking you to commit your government to bringing forward discussions with us on a meaningful, early pay rise for NHS staff.

Today UNISON is submitting a formal claim for how we want that pay rise to look. We are calling for an increase of at least £2,000 for every NHS worker, to be paid before the end of the year. It must apply to every pay point in the NHS pay structure.

We know our claim has the strong support of health staff and the public. Their feedback is that a £2,000 pay rise feels fair and reasonable.

It is the least that your government can do for all the members of the NHS team who have served us so courageously during the pandemic – and will carry on doing so once it's all over.

Our claim isn't complicated and could be implemented quickly.

Your ministers have set out an intention to divert any conversation about pay into a pay review body process. This feels unnecessary and cumbersome when, in reality, we know it's your decision about funding that will determine how health staff get recognised.

An early and positive decision from you would help get the NHS in good shape for the approaching winter with all its many challenges.

Health staff have heard how much your recent personal experiences taught you about the value of what they do – they are now looking to you to reflect that in their pay.

So, Prime Minister, why wait?

Yours sincerely

Sara Gorton
Head of Health

